

LEAD TOKIO L.T. Standard - November 29, 1944  
Sumoco

Late news tonight tells of still more B-29s over Tokio -- this being the second strike by the Super-Fortresses in the course of one night.

Early today the Japs told of a midnight attack by the giants of the air, an enemy report ~~which~~ confirmed late today by the Army Air Forces. <sup>T</sup> It was the first night <sup>ever</sup> raid staged by the B-29s, the other assaults on Tokio having been in the daytime. The Japanese radio declared that incendiary bombs were dropped and that fires were started, ~~and~~ Tokio blazing at night. <sup>T</sup> And now the latest ~~announcement~~ announcement of a B-29 follow up, forces of the big planes sweeping over Tokio at dawn. <sup>More</sup> incendiary bombs <sup>just</sup> ~~are~~ dropped over there where its tomorrow now.

## TOKYO

Early in the day the Japs announced ~~th~~ still another bombing of Tokyo by the B-29s, and now -- this is confirmed. Late this afternoon an Army Air Force bulletin disclosed that the superfortresses, flying from Saipan, had hurled another blow at the Japanese capital. <sup>TR</sup> The earlier enemy report stated that the superfortresses came over Tokyo last night, meaning that the B-29s have staged their first night raid, the other assaults on Tokyo having been in the daytime.

The Japanese radio declared that incendiary bombs were dropped and that fires were started -- Tokyo blazing in the night.

The Jap state of mind is indicated by a vicious propaganda broadcast made today -- a screaming sort of thing full of hysterical insults and threats. The Jap radio announcer declared in frantic tones that

if any of the airmen of the B-29s ~~make~~ bail out over Japan, they will be lynched -- killed by angry mobs.

This new menace of Japanese brutality can only stir the recollection of how, after the Doolittle bombing of Tokyo, some of the American airmen were captured by the Japs -- and an unspecified number were executed. And now the Far Eastern enemy threatens new crimes against American fliers.

LEAD PHILIPPINES

The Japs have taken another bad beating in their attempts to reinforce their troops on Leyte; ~~thirteen~~ -- thirteen enemy <sup>vessels</sup> ~~ships~~ destroyed. ~~The~~ ~~ships~~ ~~were~~ Crowded troops ships, ~~were~~ making their way toward Leyte, ~~when they~~ were attacked by American fighter planes. There was a two day battle, plane against ship, with the American pilots concentrating on three enemy destroyers. These were sunk together with ten troops ships. It is estimated that ~~more than~~ four thousand <sup>more</sup> Japs were lost -- increasing to twenty-one thousand the total of enemy soldiers sacrificed in attempts to run reinforcements to Leyte.

PHILIPPINES

~~Word from the Philippines indicates that the~~

*we hear*

Japs are preparing to launch heavy counter-attacks on

Leyte. ~~Island. This is the season of tropical rains in~~

~~the Philippines, and the Americans are bending every~~

~~energy to ~~marshaling~~ mass forces for a big offensive when~~

~~the dry season comes. ~~Thus~~ The Japs may try to forestall~~

~~by making desperate counter-attacks on a large scale~~

~~They are already trying minor counter-offensives~~

*In fact*

~~and~~ today they claim ~~that~~ they've made progress and cut

one important road along the coast -- trapping an

American force. <sup>ff</sup> The Japs also make another claim --

that they ~~have~~ invaded the island of Morotai. This is

one of the places MacArthur took in preparation for the

Philippine offensive -- Morotai <sup>off</sup> ~~at~~ the northern tip

of New Guinea, five hundred and sixty miles ~~from~~ south

of Leyte. The Americans established an air base there,

and now the Japs declare that they have landed troops

on Morotai and that heavy fighting is raging on  
the island.

We have a summary of the exploits of Admiral Halsey's Third Fleet, which powerful armada staged a ninety-day sweep against the Japs -- a sweep that culminated in the great naval and air battles off the Philippines. The summary gives figures and tells of three thousand, four hundred and forty-six Japanese planes shot down, sixty-two enemy warships sunk, and three hundred and seventy-eight Jap cargo vessels sent to the bottom. That's <sup>a</sup> ~~the~~ statistical account of the Halsey triumphs during three memorable months. And now a bit of dramatic action.

~~There are some things that are considered~~  
~~unmentionable, and you don't talk about them on the~~  
*Lets mention,*  
~~radio. Tonight, however, we have got to tell about~~


the Unmentionable! -- ~~because~~ That's what they are  
calling a warship, a destroyer, which now takes its  
place on the honor role of the Navy. <sup>Its</sup> ~~fixis~~ true  
name cannot be mentioned for reasons of military  
secrecy. And so the news dispatch calls the gallant  
destroyer -- the Unmentionable.

Today the Navy discloses one phase of the  
great sea and air battles off the Philippines  
several weeks ago, a phase that has hitherto been  
kept secret. We were informed at the time that, while  
the Japanese fleet was smashed up so badly, we <sup>too</sup> ~~had~~  
incurred some losses. Among these were two destroyers,  
one destroyer escort, and two escort aircraft carriers.  
And it now turns out that, <sup>they</sup> ~~these~~, were sunk in one



single clash of battle, a phase of the engagement that may have saved the MacArthur invasion.

A powerful enemy squadron, which included battleships and cruisers, appeared to have almost a clear way to the beachheads on Leyte Island. In its path was only a small group of American destroyers and escort carriers. And this little task



force undertook to stop the ponderous enemy -- steaming against battleships and heavy cruisers.

It was an utterly unequal battle, yet the small American vessels hit the Japs hard. ~~the~~ destroyers, with their guns and torpedos, the escort carriers with their planes. They virtually sacrificed themselves to check the powerful Japanese drive against the Leyte beachheads. Two destroyers were sunk ~~(the~~ ~~Hoel and Johnston. So was the destroyer escort Samuel~~ ~~B. Roberts. And two escort carriers were sent to the~~ ~~bottom, the St. Lo and the Gambier Bay.)~~

One of the American ships in the fight was the destroyer that cannot be named -- the Unmentionable. We are given only the identity of her skipper, Commander Amos Hathaway of Chevy Chase, Maryland. Commander Hathaway took the Unmentionable straight at the Japanese battleships and cruisers.

~~"When we were fifteen thousand yards away," the skipper relates, "four battleships broke out of the enemy line. I fired seven of my ten torpedoes at the heavy cruisers at the head of the line, he goes on, "and then made for the battleships."~~

~~And today's news~~ <sup>The</sup> dispatch states: "When the Unmentionable approached within eighty-five hundred yards, salvos of fourteen-inch shells roared close overhead. (The destroyer, like a fox terrier nipping at a pack of wolfhounds, answered with her five-inch guns."

The aim of the <sup>battleship</sup> ~~warship~~ guns was a little high, very little -- and the fourteen-inch shells went screaming by, a mere few feet above the Unmentionable.) Commander Hathaway kept plowing along, and got within torpedo range. <sup>He launched</sup> ~~He lost his~~ last three, and one scored a hit -- exploding against the side of a battleship of the Kongo class, damaging

it severely.

*Its torpedoes all gone,*

~~But one torpedo was left, and~~ the Unmentionable

turned from the battleships and attacked a cruiser,

~~Maxxingx - Matching light guns against heavy, the~~

~~destroyer covered hits and set~~ *setting its* superstructure *afire.*

~~the cruiser on fire.~~ But now enemy shells <sup>were</sup> hitting the

Unmentionable, and the destroyer was heavily damaged.

*Then* ~~and~~ the whole powerful Jap squadron turned

away. Just why, the Americans couldn't guess. After

almost destroying the little American suicide task

force, the Japs appeared to have a clear and open way

to the beachheads on Leyte. Instead of taking the

opportunity, they withdrew -- and it may be that

this was because they had been so badly damaged by the

destroyers and ~~the~~ planes of the escort carriers. **I**n

which case, the Unmentionable and her sister ships of

the little task force -- may have saved the Philippine

invasion.

CHINA

In China, <sup>the</sup> Chiang Kai shek government today issued a statement to quiet popular fears. We are told that people of Chungking, business elements in particular, <sup>have</sup> become panicky, because of the continuing advance of the Japanese. ~~toward the Chinese Nationalist capital~~ And today, word <sup>came</sup> ~~spread~~ that the Japs, pushing on, had come closer to Chungking than ~~they have~~ at any previous time since the beginning of the China war. <sup>They</sup> ~~are~~ are now within two hundred and fifty miles of the seat of <sup>Chang</sup> ~~the Chungking~~ Government.

The Japs are moving in the direction of the important city of Kweiyang, and this prompted the Chungking authorities to issue the following statement of reassurance: "Japanese columns striking toward Kweiyang do not present a direct threat to Chungking."

<sup>TP</sup> The mere fact that such assurances are needed to quiet panicky fears is a vivid indication of the present unfortunate course of the war in China.

MADAME CHIANG

It is denied that Madame Chiang Kai-Shek will remain permanently in the United States. She is over here now for medical treatment, and the story was that she would not go back to China.

A London newspaper quoted its correspondent in Calcutta as saying that he had the word from an observer who had recently arrived from ~~India and~~ China. This observer stated that in China he was told that the wife of War Leader Chiang Kai-Shek planned to establish her permanent residence at Miami Beach, Florida.

During the recent government shake-up in China, there were rumors that all was not serene between the Generalissimo and his active and intelligent wife, who has <sup>S</sup> played so important a part in Chinese politics. And this lent probability to the story that Madame Chiang ~~Kai-Shek~~ would make her future home in the United States.

However, the whole thing is denied --

denied by the Vice Premier of China. Through the Chinese Embassy in Washington he calls the report --

"an unmitigated falsehood." Which is both the oriental and polite occidental way of saying "you're another!"

Now H - while I glance at my notes let's have some unmitigated truth from Stan. of Cal.

## SUBSTITUTE LEAD WESTERN FRONT

The latest from the Western Front is a new drive launched by the American Ninth Army. The Ninth is teamed up in front of Cologne with General Hodge's First Army. The new powerful attack is thrusting toward the Roer River, <sup>and</sup> The first rush scored gains from one half to three quarters of a mile. ~~and~~ both armies, in today's fighting, captured seven towns.

The battle in front of Cologne is desperate, with the Germans describing the conflict in these ominous words: "the most terrible and ferocious battle in the history of all wars".



~~whole industrial basin that is called the Saar.~~

~~In front of Cologne the battle is bitterest of all. American troops today captured six towns in the fiercest of fighting. The Germans describe the conflict ~~on the plain of Cologne~~ in these ominous words -- "The most terrible and ferocious battle in the history of all wars."~~

And that enemy opinion is emphasized by a dispatch from United Press Correspondent Jack Frankish, who tells of the utter destruction of ~~one of the most~~ Beautiful ~~newspaper~~ of old towns in the German Rhineland -- a land famous for charming and poetic towns. The U.P. man cables: "It is becoming evident that if the Germans resist that stubbornly all the way to the ~~the~~ Rhine, every city, town, village and hamlet in the Rhineland will be destroyed."

(~~He says the German technique is to turn~~

~~each ancient town into a bristling fortress. "Old,~~

<sup>"old</sup>  
^  
thick-walled stone houses make excellent strongpoints,"

he writes, "and must be reduced gradually with air

bombs, artillery and tanks." ~~Then the defenders," he~~

~~goes on, "must finally be routed from cellars with~~

~~grenades and small arms. When this process is completed,~~

he concludes, "there is not a single house left

standing in the town."

~~And that apparently is to be the fate of the~~  
~~whole Rhineland, with its legends of <sup>history</sup> ~~history~~ and~~

~~romance.~~ In other words, the Nazis, having wrought

so much destruction in other countries, are now

bringing about the <sup>utter</sup>  
^  
destruction of their own.

## HOSTAGES

From Europe tonight we have another story about the execution of hostages. But this time the case is reversed. Hitherto one of the horrors of the war has been the German killing of hostages. And now the French threaten to adopt the same system.

At Strasbourg, Brigadier General Leclerc, Commander of the French Second Armoured Division, <sup>today</sup> announced that five German hostages will be executed for every French soldier killed by German guerrilla snipers.

This edict was posted throughout the city, and added that the death penalty will be inflicted on any person ~~convicted~~ convicted of helping German guerrillas or being in possession of illegal weapons. <sup>TP</sup> In the hostage threat the French Commander stated that persons to be executed will be drawn from a group of prisoners held by his division, five hostages to be shot for every French soldier killed in Strasbourg.

There seems, however, to be some doubt about the actual carrying out of the threat -- because the occupation of Strasbourg is being taken over by American troops, and an American Commander will supercede the French General. The assumption being that the Americans will not adopt the system of shooting hostages.

Strasbourg, the capital of Alsace-Lorraine, is described as being much more German than French -- *many of* its people in the category of enemies. And ~~some~~ *fantastic* stories are circulating.

An American army representative of Civil Affairs passes a wild one along -- a story that German girls have been luring American soldiers to their rooms and then murdering them. This <sup>bloodcurdler, he says</sup> ~~mindbending~~ *gets* only a big laugh from G.I. Joe <sup>who is</sup> ~~to~~ *to graver pensils.*

RUSSIA

The Soviet offensive in Hungary keeps rolling on -- with a new crossing of the Danube one hundred miles north of Budapest. Russian troops today drove ahead for a twenty-five mile advance, and their goal is -- Austria. The Germans admit the Russians have broken through in Hungary, and add -- "A great battle is beginning to develop." This may be the decisive battle in the Red Army drive across the plains of Hungary and toward German frontiers.

CANADA

~~En~~ Canada, the Mackenzie King Government seems to be pushing its way successfully through the Conscription crisis. The latest is, that <sup>by</sup> a series of compromises, ---the Canadian Prime Minister is likely to keep his Cabinet in power. And also the edge of discontent in the Canadian Home Army seems to be less sharp -- with a quieting down of the angry demonstrations by Canadian soldiers against proposals of a draft for overseas war duty. <sup>TR</sup> One announcement today was that French Canadian troops stationed in other parts of Canada will be returned to their home province of Quebec; for further training, it was explained, -- And the statement was added that most of the soldiers in the anti-conscription demonstrations were French-Canadians. <sup>TR</sup> In Ottawa, today, Prime Minister Mackenzie King protested against the use of the word "mutiny". He was asked what he intended to do about the soldier's riotings protests against ~~conscription~~ conscription, which his questioner called "mutiny".

"It is not mutiny." Mackenzie King responded

with vigor, "it most decidedly is not".

From Hollywood we learn that Colonel Elliott Roosevelt is to marry Movie Actress Faye Emerson -- the wedding to take place some time this week.

Rumors have been circulating, and today Faye Emerson announced: "Yes, it is true, We plan to be married within the week, but we don't know exactly when."

Elliott Roosevelt confirms this. Relaying a message by way of a friend, he said today: "Yes, it is true!"

This will be the third wedding for President Roosevelt's second son. He has three children by a previous marriage. Elliott Roosevelt is thirty-four, and Faye Emerson is twenty-seven. It will be her second marriage, and she has a four-year-old son.

*A year ago there was talk of a possible alliance between Elliott and the*  
and Last summer it was insistently rumored that

*he was*  
Colonel Elliott Roosevelt was engaged to Captain Ruth

*Beautiful Ditchers of Kent.*



Briggs of the Wacs. There was a lot of publicity, and then the report was denied. This time the rumor turns out to be true, that Elliott Roosevelt will marry the <sup>a</sup>beautiful blonde actress of the films, who has appeared in seventeen motion pictures.

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Another Roosevelt wedding,  
and now another closing  
commercial from H-James.